

NEW SOUTH WALES.BUSINESS STATISTICS AUGUST, 1944.CONTENTSPART IPRIMARY & EXPORT INDUSTRIES.

RURAL INDUSTRIES - GENERAL. Seasonal conditions. Price of eggs reduced.

MEAT: Seasonal reduction in wholesale and retail prices of mutton and lamb. Increased price to be paid to producers for export lamb. Introduction of system for treatment of stock on weight and grade basis.

DAIRYING: Australian Statistics, 1943/44 - decrease in cows milked and butter production, increases in other processed milk products.

PART IIFINANCE & TRADE.

GENERAL: Loan Council allocations 1944/45. Commonwealth Bank Profits.

SHARE PRICES: July, 1944.

SAVINGS BANKS: Deposits in N.S.W. and Aust. July, 1944.

WAR SAVINGS CERTIFICATES. Net sales N.S.W. and Aust. July, 1944.

RETAIL TRADE: Sales and Stocks, June, 1944.

PART IIIINDUSTRY, TRANSPORT ETC.

GENERAL: Release of 45,000 men from Services for urgent labour requirements. Coal rationing. Increased news print quota.

GAS & ELECTRICITY: Index of Consumption, July, 1944.

EMPLOYMENT: June, 1944.

TRANSPORT: Railways, July, 1944. Trams & Buses year 1943/44. Motor registrations, July, 1944.

BUILDING: Private permits in metropolis and proposed Government Buildings in N.S.W., July, 1944.

PART I - PRIMARY AND EXPORT INDUSTRIES.

Seasonal conditions are favourable in coastal dairying districts, and the outlook for spring has been greatly enhanced in central and north western areas by rainfall received in August. The position continues to deteriorate in the Riverina and south-west.

The price per doz. of 1st quality hen eggs (2s. from 3rd Jan.) was reduced to 1s. 9d. on 28th August and 1s. 7d. on 4th September. It has been announced that there will be no further reduction this season. Last year the price was 1s. 7d. from 30th August to 19th December, when it was raised to 1s. 10d.

MEAT.

Seasonal reductions have been announced in the wholesale and retail prices of lamb and mutton; e.g. in the retail price of lamb shoulder and fore and hind-quarters $\frac{1}{2}$ d. lb., leg 1d. lb., neck and chump chops $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. lb. Because of drought conditions the reduction in price is smaller than in previous years but a further reduction will be applied later.

The price paid by the Commonwealth for lamb for export was increased by about $\frac{1}{2}$ d. lb. on 4th September with the object of obtaining larger supplies for Britain. To encourage farmers to carry lambs into the higher weight ranges the increase is greatest for weights 29/42 lb. The price charged to the British Ministry of Food is unchanged.

Under orders operative from 4th September extended facilities have been provided whereby producers may have cattle, sheep and lambs slaughtered and sold on a weight and grade basis. The scheme is restricted to stock to be submitted for export, Service use, canning or dehydration. Designated slaughter houses are required to reserve 20% of their killing capacity for the treatment of stock on this basis - formerly only about 3% was so treated. Producers who are dissatisfied with prices offered at auction or in the paddock for stock on the hoof will be able under the new system to get actual carcase realisations less costs of treatment.

DAIRY INDUSTRY.

From data supplied by dairy factory managers throughout Australia the Acting Commonwealth Statistician has estimated that 44 m. gallons or roughly one-third of the war-time decline in milk production appears to be attributable to the complete cessation of dairying activity on 5,700 farms. Present activities on 2,882 of 3,508 farms which ceased dairy production in the last two years (ended June) are: grazing 2,198, vegetables 251, other crops 204, vacant 229.

Australian Statistics of the dairying industry have been released by the Acting Commonwealth Statistician.

Dairy Cows. During the war there has been little change in the number (about 3.2 m.) of dairy cows, but the number milked throughout the season has declined. The Australian total of cows milking declined by 79,872 to 2,291,110 between 31st March, 1943 & 1944. In N.S.W. there was a decline from 789,445 in 1939, to 745,755 in 1942, 721,417 in 1943, and 691,867 in 1944 - i.e., a total decrease of 97,578 or 12%.

DAIRY COWS AT 31st March.

| Dairy Cows | N.S.W. | Vic. | Q'land. | S.A. | W.A. | Tas. | Aust. x |
|------------|---------|---------|-----------|---------|---------|--------|-----------|
| 1943 - | | | | | | | |
| Milking | 721,417 | 642,110 | 764,629 | 109,154 | 68,471 | 64,414 | 2,370,982 |
| Dry | 205,182 | 235,054 | 270,631 | 48,143 | 61,292 | 16,145 | 836,774 |
| Total | 926,599 | 877,164 | 1,035,260 | 157,297 | 129,763 | 80,559 | 3,207,756 |
| 1944 - | | | | | | | |
| Milking | 691,867 | 611,599 | 749,162 | 111,022 | 66,111 | 60,485 | 2,291,110 |
| Dry | 227,268 | 263,197 | 273,697 | 50,654 | 68,875 | 14,529 | 898,616 |
| Total | 919,135 | 874,796 | 1,022,859 | 161,676 | 134,986 | 75,014 | 3,189,726 |

x Includes Australian Capital Territory.

Whole milk production in the last six years was highest in 1939/40 and lowest in 1943/44. There was a decrease (182 m. gallons) between these years, and an increase (64 m. gallons) in the quantity used for cheese, condensing and other purposes so that the milk available for butter making was reduced by 246 m. gallons.

PRODUCTION AND UTILISATION OF WHOLE MILK - AUSTRALIA.

Thousand Gallons.

| Year | Butter | Cheese | Condensing | Other Purposes | Total |
|-----------|---------|--------|------------|----------------|-----------|
| 1938/39 | 925,257 | 64,994 | 33,367 | 165,206 | 1,188,824 |
| 1939/40 | 983,067 | 68,351 | 37,045 | 165,149 | 1,253,612 |
| 1940/41 | 904,432 | 59,334 | 50,431 | 175,632 | 1,189,829 |
| 1941/42 | 792,878 | 66,862 | 63,070 | 181,655 | 1,104,465 |
| 1942/43 | 795,340 | 79,321 | 55,017 | 199,552 | 1,129,230 |
| 1943/44 * | 737,288 | 79,108 | 60,645 | 194,274 | 1,071,315 |

* Subject to revision.

Butter and Cheese. Output of butter (157,498 tons) in 1943/44 was 13,600 tons or 8% less than in 1942/43, and 20% below the average in the three years ended June, 1941.

Cheese production (35,853 tons) was only 274 tons below the record output of 1942/43 and 22% above 1938/39.

Smaller production and heavy Service requirements have resulted in a sharp decline in exports.

BUTTER AND CHEESE: PRODUCTION, CONSUMPTION & EXPORTS: AUSTRALIA.

Thousand Tons.

| Year | Butter | | | Cheese | | |
|-----------|-----------------------------------|--|----------|-----------------------------------|--|---------|
| | Production (Factory & Farm) | Consumption (incl. Armed Forces in Aust.) | Exports. | Production (Factory & Farm) | Consumption (incl. Armed Forces in Aust.) | Exports |
| 1938-39 | 203.5 | 100.7 | 102.8 | 29.3 | 13.3 | 16.0 |
| 1939-40 | 212.0 | 94.4 | 117.5 | 31.2 | 11.9 | 19.3 |
| 1940-41 | 192.9 | 105.2 | 87.7 | 26.8 | 11.6 | 15.2 |
| 1941-42 | 167.5 | 109.0 | 58.6 | 30.2 | 16.1 | 14.1 |
| 1942-43 | 171.1 | 112.0 | 59.1 | 36.1 | 24.7 | 11.4 |
| 1943-44 * | 157.5 | 109.8 | 47.7 | 35.9 | 21.1 | 14.8 |

* Subject to revision.

Preserved Milk Products. There has been a considerable diversion of milk to preserved milk, the total tonnage of output in 1943/44 being almost two and a half times that of 1938/39.

PRODUCTION OF PRESERVED MILK: AUSTRALIA.

Tons.

| Year | Condensed. | | Concen- trated | Powdered | Infants & Invalids Food | Total |
|-----------|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------|-------------------------------|--------|
| | Sweeten- ed. | Unsweet- ened. | | | | |
| 1938-39 | 14,570 | 950 | 1,659 | 10,712 | 1,259 | 29,150 |
| 1939-40 | 16,761 | 2,559 | 2,103 | 12,554 | 3,148 | 37,125 |
| 1940-41 | 24,394 | 4,879 | 4,900 | 14,567 | 2,716 | 51,456 |
| 1941-42 | 34,813 | 10,745 | 6,899 | 17,907 | 2,384 | 72,748 |
| 1942-43 | 24,293 | 9,312 | 8,398 | 16,984 | 3,074 | 62,061 |
| 1943-44 * | 27,985 | 14,223 | 8,586 | 16,593 | 4,342 | 71,729 |

* Subject to revision.

Pigmeats. The number of pigs slaughtered rose to a peak in 1941/42 then declined. The number slaughtered in 1943/44 was about the same as in 1938/39. As a result of Commonwealth control measures there has been a switch from pork to bacon and ham, output and exports of which show substantial increase.

PIGMEATS: PRODUCTION CONSUMPTION & EXPORTS: AUSTRALIA.

| Year | Pigs Slaughtered | | Pork | | | Bacon & Ham. | | |
|---------|------------------|-----------------|------------|----------------------|---------|--------------|----------------------|---------|
| | For Pork | For Bacon & Ham | Production | Apparent Consumption | Exports | Production | Apparent Consumption | Exports |
| | million | | | | | | thousand tons | |
| 1938-39 | 1.01 | .81 | 37.0 | 23.3 | 13.7 | 33.2 | 32.5 | .7 |
| 1939-40 | 1.13 | .82 | 42.6 | 19.3 | 23.3 | 35.1 | 33.2 | 1.9 |
| 1940-41 | 1.38 | .96 | 50.5 | 17.1 | 33.4 | 39.9 | 36.9 | 3.0 |
| 1941-42 | 1.61 | 1.02 | 58.8 | 43.5 | 15.3 | 42.5 | 39.9 | 2.6 |
| 1942-43 | 1.06 | 1.01 | 38.9 | 38.0 | .9 | 39.3 | 38.1 | 1.2 |
| 1943-44 | .78 | 1.03 | 30.7 | 23.5 | 17.2 | 43.0 | 39.2 | 3.8 |

Source: Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics.

Figures are in thousand tons. Exports are in thousand pounds sterling. Exports of bacon and ham are not available.

Exports of bacon and ham are not available. Exports of bacon and ham are not available.

PIGMEATS: PRODUCTION CONSUMPTION & EXPORTS: AUSTRALIA

Based on Bureau of Census and Statistics

| Year | Pigs Slaughtered | | Pork | | | Bacon & Ham. | | |
|---------|------------------|-----------------|------------|----------------------|---------|--------------|----------------------|---------|
| | For Pork | For Bacon & Ham | Production | Apparent Consumption | Exports | Production | Apparent Consumption | Exports |
| 1938-39 | 1.01 | .81 | 37.0 | 23.3 | 13.7 | 33.2 | 32.5 | .7 |
| 1939-40 | 1.13 | .82 | 42.6 | 19.3 | 23.3 | 35.1 | 33.2 | 1.9 |
| 1940-41 | 1.38 | .96 | 50.5 | 17.1 | 33.4 | 39.9 | 36.9 | 3.0 |
| 1941-42 | 1.61 | 1.02 | 58.8 | 43.5 | 15.3 | 42.5 | 39.9 | 2.6 |
| 1942-43 | 1.06 | 1.01 | 38.9 | 38.0 | .9 | 39.3 | 38.1 | 1.2 |
| 1943-44 | .78 | 1.03 | 30.7 | 23.5 | 17.2 | 43.0 | 39.2 | 3.8 |

Source: Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics.

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PIGMEATS: PRODUCTION CONSUMPTION & EXPORTS: AUSTRALIA

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PART II.....

GENERAL.

Loan Council has approved of loan works programmes totalling £19.9 m. in 1944/45, an increase of £7 m. as compared with last year's approvals. The allocations are summarised below.

LOAN COUNCIL ALLOCATIONS FOR PUBLIC WORKS

| | 1944/45 | | | 1943/44 | | |
|---------------|---------|-------|------------|---------|-------|------------|
| | N.S.W. | Vic. | All States | N.S.W. | Vic. | All States |
| | £000 | £000 | £000 | £000 | £000 | £000 |
| State Govts - | | | | | | |
| Housing | 3,850 | 2,920 | 9,058 | | | |
| Other | 3,014 | 1,257 | 7,526 | 3,510 | 1,350 | 10,970 |
| Total | 6,864 | 4,177 | 16,584 | | | |
| Semi Govt'l. | 572 | 1,000 | 2,091 | 1,050 | 330 | 1,780 |
| Local Govt. | 470 | 151 | 1,252 | | | |
| Total | 7,906 | 5,328 | 19,927 | 4,560 | 1,680 | 12,750 |

Of £9.1 m. provided for housing in 1944/45, £6.8 m. is to be expended on war-time housing projects and £2.3 m. on the acquisition of land, etc. in preparation for the first year of the post-war housing programme.

Under decision of Loan Council it is proposed to effect the permanent redemption of Treasury Bills issued on behalf of the States amounting to £10 m., and on the balance outstanding (about £43 m.) to increase sinking fund contributions from 10s.% to 20s%.

The National Works Council approved an "A" priority schedule of works to cost £153.5 m., as a first instalment of the post-war works programme. It was estimated that these works, carried out over a period of two years, would provide direct employment for 50,000 men.

Commonwealth Bank. Notwithstanding reductions in rates of interest profits of the Commonwealth Bank (including Savings Bank) have almost trebled since 1938/39. Most of the profits are paid to the Commonwealth Treasury, to the credit of revenue account and for debt redemption.

The increase in profits has been due to expansion of credit for war purposes, which is reflected by the great expansion of interest earning assets, e.g., Commonwealth securities in the Banking Department rose from £38 m. in 1939 to £223 m. in 1944, debentures, etc., in the Note Issue Dept. from £40 m. to £150 m. and in the Savings Bank from £108 m. to £234 m.

COMMONWEALTH BANK PROFITS.

| Year ended June | Profits | | | | Distribution | | | | Total |
|-----------------|---------------|------------|---------------|--------------|---------------------|---------------|-------------------------|-----------|-------|
| | Banking Dept. | Note Issue | Mortgage Bank | Savings Bank | Capital & Re-serves | Com' Treasury | National Debt Sink Fund | | |
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| 1939 | 388,159 | 716,731 | - | 316,282 | 368,211 | 766,730 | 336,431 | 1,471,172 | |
| 1942 | 574,292 | 1,658,141 | - | 368,754 | 495,215 | 1,658,141 | 447,831 | 2,601,187 | |
| 1943 | 917,416 | 2,247,702 | - | 392,599 | 677,148 | 2,247,702 | 632,867 | 3,557,717 | |
| 1944 | 1,022,931 | 2,743,115 | £13,186 | 498,782 | 880,718 | 2,628,971 | 741,943 | 4,251,642 | |

£ Loss

SHARE PRICES.

In July, 1944, there were increases of one point each in the groups "Retail" and "34 Active Shares" of the Statistician's Index of Share Prices.

INDEX OF SHARE PRICES - SYDNEY.

Prices of ordinary shares - excl. banks. Par value = 100.
(Compiled by N.S.W. Govt. Statistician).

| Average for Month. | Manufacturing & Distributing | Retail | Public Utilities | Pastoral & Finance | Insurance | Total 75 Companies | 34 Active Shares |
|--------------------|------------------------------|--------|------------------|--------------------|-----------|--------------------|------------------|
| 1937-Mar. | 214 | 204 | 181 | 169 | 281 | 190(a) | 201 |
| 1939-Aug. | 213 | 168 | 156 | 118 | 264 | 174 | 182 |
| 1941-Sept. | 228 | 177 | 142 | 128 | 253 | 175 | 191 |
| 1942-Apr. | 176 | 139 | 118 | 112 | 212 | 141 | 150 |
| 1943-Dec. | 237 | 194 | 148 | 135 | 254 | 185 | 200 |
| 1944-Mar. | 237 | 194 | 150 | 135 | 254 | 186 | 201 |
| Apr. | 237 | 194 | 150 | 137 | 254 | 186 | 201 |
| May. | 237 | 194 | 150 | 139 | 254 | 186 | 201 |
| June | 237 | 194 | 150 | 139 | 254 | 186 | 201 |
| July | 237 | 195 | 150 | 139 | 254 | 186 | 202 |

(a) Highest point recorded.

Further large increases in depositors' balances (N.S.W. £3.9 m., Australia £10.1 m.) in July, 1944, compare with £4.3 m. and £12.3 m., respectively, in July, 1943 - the largest monthly increases recorded, apart from June figures which include credits for a year's interest.

SAVINGS BANK DEPOSITS: N.S.W. AND AUSTRALIA.

| Period. | N.S.W. | | AUSTRALIA | |
|------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| | Deposits at end of period. | Increase or Decrease (-) in period. | Deposits at end of period. | Increase or Decrease (-) in period. |
| Year ended June: | £000 | £000 | £000 | £000 |
| 1939 | 87,474 | 1,458 | 245,587 | 5,155 |
| 1941 | 87,750 | 5,639 | 252,231 | 15,240 |
| 1942 | 94,538 | 6,788 | 274,275 | 22,044 |
| 1943 | 122,405 | 27,867 | 357,995 | 83,720 |
| 1944 | 162,867 | 40,462 | 471,534 | 113,539 |
| Month: 1943 | | | | |
| Mar. | 115,642 | 2,824 | 336,111 | 8,620 |
| Apr. | 115,500 | (-) 142 | 337,124 | 1,013 |
| May | 118,016 | 2,516 | 344,942 | 7,818 |
| June | 122,405 | 4,389* | 357,995 | 13,053* |
| July | 126,689 | 4,284 | 370,300 | 12,305 |
| 1944 | | | | |
| Mar. | 154,154 | 3,779 | 446,046 | 9,647 |
| Apr. | 156,025 | 1,871 | 450,775 | 4,729 |
| May | 157,045 | 1,020 | 455,012 | 4,237 |
| June | 162,867 | 5,822* | 471,534 | 16,522* |
| July | 166,751 | 3,884 | 481,644 | 10,110 |

* Includes Interest credited.

WAR SAVINGS CERTIFICATES.

Net proceeds of sales of certificates (N.S.W. £275,000, Australia £730,000) in July, 1944, were less than in July, 1943; viz. £337,000 and £891,000 respectively.

NET PROCEEDS OF SALE OF WAR SAVINGS CERTIFICATES N.S.W. AND AUST.

| | Jan. '44 | Feb. '44 | Mar. '44 | Apr. '44 | May '44 | June, '44 | July, '44 | Total to July '44 |
|------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|---------|-----------|-----------|-------------------|
| Thousand £ | | | | | | | | |
| N.S.W.. | 211 | 210 | 222 | 191 | 297 | 249 | 275 | 16,013 |
| Aust. | 460 | 594 | 598 | 482 | 797 | 668 | 730 | 44,451 |

RETAIL TRADE.

Notwithstanding fluctuations in monthly comparisons, retail trade as indicated by the experience of a group of large city stores was maintained during the first half of 1944 at approximately the same level as in the previous year.

Sales in the month and six months ended June, 1944, were respectively 2.7% higher and 0.5% lower than in the corresponding periods of 1943.

Stocks at the end of June, 1944, were 0.8% higher than in June, 1943, though showing an average decline of 4.2% during the half year.

RETAIL TRADE - EXPERIENCE OF LARGE SYDNEY STORES.

Percentage Increase (+) or Decrease (-) from corresponding period of the previous year.

| Year | February | March | April | May | June | Six months ended June |
|------|----------|-------|-------|-----|------|-----------------------|
|------|----------|-------|-------|-----|------|-----------------------|

Value of Sales.

| 1940-41 | (+) | 6.2 | (+) | 13.9 | (+) | 8.3 | (+) | 24.2 | (+) | 38.4 | (+) | 17.5 |
|---------|-----|------|-----|------|-----|------|-----|------|-----|------|-----|------|
| 1941-42 | (+) | 3.4 | (+) | 25.9 | (+) | 25.6 | (+) | 8.7 | (+) | 19.1 | (+) | 3.7 |
| 1942-43 | (-) | 27.5 | (-) | 14.1 | (-) | 16.0 | (+) | 0.8 | (+) | 1.3 | (-) | 13.0 |
| 1943-44 | (+) | 1.6 | (+) | 10.4 | (-) | 8.8 | (+) | 0.7 | (+) | 2.7 | (-) | 0.5 |

Value of Stock

| 1940-41 | (+) | 5.8 | (+) | 0.1 | (+) | 0.4 | (-) | 0.5 | (+) | 1.4 | (+) | 1.8 |
|---------|-----|------|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|------|-----|------|
| 1941-42 | (+) | 19.2 | (+) | 11.5 | (+) | 8.7 | (+) | 11.5 | (+) | 10.5 | (+) | 13.5 |
| 1942-43 | (+) | 2.2 | (-) | 2.4 | (-) | 2.3 | (-) | 11.1 | (-) | 10.2 | (-) | 3.0 |
| 1943-44 | (-) | 2.9 | (-) | 5.1 | (-) | 3.3 | (-) | 0.6 | (+) | 0.8 | (-) | 4.2 |

Sales of apparel lines (other than dress piece goods) increased by about 5% as compared with June, 1943, and there was a small increase of 1.9% in furniture and hardware. Dress and household piece goods varied by less than 1%.

RETAIL TRADE - SALES BY LARGE SYDNEY STORES.

Percentage movement from same month in preceding year.

| Month in 1943-44 | Wearing Apparel | | | | Household Piece Goods | Furniture and Hardware | | | | | | |
|------------------|-------------------|-------------|-------------------|---------------|-----------------------|------------------------|-----|------|------|------|------|------|
| | Dress Piece Goods | Womens Wear | Men's & Boys Wear | Boots & Shoes | | | | | | | | |
| Jan. | (+) | 18.2 | ... | (+) | 6.5 | (-) | 5.9 | (-) | 38.7 | (-) | 28.2 | |
| Feb. | (+) | 31.2 | (+) | 8.5 | (+) | 7.4 | (-) | 4.7 | (-) | 24.5 | (+) | 9.7 |
| Mar. | (+) | 35.5 | (+) | 27.2 | (+) | 23.9 | (+) | 21.4 | (-) | 25.3 | (-) | 8.5 |
| Apr. | (-) | 1.8 | (-) | 5.0 | (+) | 2.5 | (-) | 6.6 | (-) | 23.4 | (-) | 19.8 |
| May | (+) | 0.3 | (+) | 3.2 | (+) | 0.6 | (-) | 19.2 | (+) | 7.5 | (+) | 4.5 |
| June | (-) | 0.6 | (+) | 5.5 | (+) | 5.7 | (+) | 4.7 | (+) | 0.2 | (+) | 1.9 |

PART III INDUSERY, TRANSPORT, ETC.

GENERAL.

Manpower. To supply in part urgent Australian labour requirements of high priority 45,000 men are to be released from the Services - 20,000 by 31st December next and the remaining 25,000 by 30th June, 1945. Of the total releases 30,000 are to be made by the Army and 15,000 by the Air Force. Labour required for high priority purposes in Australia is estimated at 78,600 males and 17,400 females, a total of 96,000. The most urgent requirements, totalling 52,000 males, comprise the following: food processing (permanent) 4,000, transport 5,000, naval ship building and repair 3,000, rural 25,000, building and construction 8,000, timber, 3,000, public utilities 1,000, Commonwealth services 2,000, State services 1,000/

Coal rationing. Measures have been instituted as a result of depletion of stocks to reduce consumption of coal. These aim at reductions in industrial consumption ranging to 20% in the heavy industries and of 10% in the railways.

The news print quota for daily, Sunday and weekly newspapers is to be increased from 1st October by 20% of allocations in September quarter, 1943. This is the fourth increase since October, 1943, and makes the total increase 45%. The new quota permits a consumption of roughly 87,000 tons of news print a year; pre-war consumption was about 180,000 tons.

GAS AND ELECTRICITY.

Consumption of gas and electricity in Sydney and suburbs was $3\frac{1}{2}\%$ higher in July, 1944, than in July, 1943, the index numbers being 177 this year and 171 last year.

INDEX OF CONSUMPTION OF GAS AND ELECTRICITY - SYDNEY AND SUBURBS.

Base: Average corresponding month 1929-1931 = 100.

| Year | Jan. | Feb. | March | April | May | June | July |
|------|------|------|-------|-------|-----|------|------|
| 1939 | 125 | 125 | 130 | 125 | 128 | 131 | 134 |
| 1943 | 164 | 159 | 164 | 164 | 166 | 174 | 171 |
| 1944 | 155 | 161 | 165 | 162 | 172 | 176 | 177 |

EMPLOYMENT IN N.S.W.

Estimated employment (excluding rural employees and household domestics) declined by 500 in June, 1944. There was an increase of 700 in the employment of males and a decline of 1,200 females.

Government employment decreased by 700 females; in private employment a net gain of 200 resulted from an increase of 700 males and a decrease of 500 females.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

ESTIMATED WAGE & SALARY EARNERS EMPLOYED (EXCL. RURAL WORKERS & HOUSEHOLD DOMESTICS)
(Includes Civil Construction Corps in N.S.W.)

| End of Month | MALES | | | FEMALES | | | TOTAL | | |
|--------------|---|---------------------------|-------|---|---------------------------|-------|---|---------------------------|-------|
| | Govt. (Cwlth, State, Local & Allied). | Private Employ- ers | Total | Govt. (Cwlth, State, Local & Allied). | Private Employ- ers | Total | Govt. (Cwlth. State, Local & Allied). | Private Employ- ers | Total |
| 1939-July | 136.5 | 393.4 | 529.9 | 19.4 | 148.6 | 168.0 | 155.9 | 542.0 | 697. |
| 1941-July | 141.5 | 404.8 | 546.3 | 21.7 | 192.4 | 214.1 | 163.2 | 597.2 | 760. |
| Nov. | 144.3 | 411.1 | 555.4 | 23.0 | 201.5 | 224.5 | 167.3 | 612.3 | 779. |
| 1942-July | 158.6 | 376.0 | 534.6 | 29.3 | 206.6 | 232.9 | 187.9 | 579.6 | 767. |
| Nov. | 156.7 | 374.7 | 531.4 | 33.9 | 206.9 | 240.8 | 190.6 | 581.6 | 772. |
| 1943-Apr. | 156.6 | 368.6 | 525.2 | 39.8 | 208.1 | 247.9 | 196.4 | 576.7 | 773. |
| May | 156.5 | 367.5 | 524.0 | 41.0 | 206.9 | 247.9 | 197.5 | 574.4 | 771. |
| June | 155.8 | 367.9 | 523.7 | 42.9 | 206.8 | 249.7 | 198.7 | 574.7 | 773. |
| July | 156.6 | 365.4 | 522.0 | 45.8 | 204.1 | 249.9 | 202.4 | 569.5 | 771. |
| Nov. | 153.9 | 366.2 | 520.1 | 47.0 | 208.3 | 255.3 | 200.9 | 574.5 | 775. |
| 1944-Apr. | 151.6 | 369.8 | 521.4 | 46.8 | 205.1 | 251.9 | 198.4 | 574.9 | 773. |
| May | 152.3 | 369.2 | 521.5 | 46.0 | 205.6 | 251.6 | 198.3 | 574.8 | 773. |
| June | 152.3 | 369.9 | 522.2 | 45.3 | 205.1 | 250.4 | 197.6 | 575.0 | 772. |

A further substantial increase in employment was recorded under Transport and Communication (males, 1,600, females 100) and there were small increases in Retail Trade (males 200), Other Commerce and Finance (males 300, females 100) and Professional and Personal Service (males 100, females 200). The downward trend continued in Building and Construction, which lost 1,300 males, and in Factories, which lost 1,300 females but gained 300 males.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

ESTIMATED TOTAL EMPLOYMENT IN MAIN INDUSTRIAL GROUPS.

Thousands.

| Month | Factory | Mining & Quarrying | | Building & Construction | | Transport & Communication | | Retail Trade | | Other Commerce & Finance | | Professional & Personal Services | |
|-----------|---------|--------------------|------|-------------------------|------|---------------------------|------|--------------|------|--------------------------|------|----------------------------------|------|
| | | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. |
| 1939-July | 158.8 | 59.3 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1941-July | 202.1 | 76.0 | 25.8 | .2 | 53.6 | .7 | 78.2 | 8.1 | 41.3 | 40.9 | 43.3 | 17.6 | 52.5 |
| Nov. | 210.5 | 80.7 | 25.8 | .2 | 50.5 | .7 | 79.8 | 8.4 | 41.5 | 42.9 | 44.6 | 19.4 | 52.6 |
| 1942-July | 213.3 | 84.8 | 25.4 | .2 | 44.2 | .7 | 80.3 | 9.0 | 32.3 | 41.1 | 36.0 | 20.7 | 46.0 |
| Nov. | 214.9 | 89.3 | 25.3 | .2 | 39.6 | .7 | 79.9 | 9.9 | 30.4 | 41.2 | 36.4 | 21.2 | 44.2 |
| 1943-June | 218.9 | 94.6 | 25.2 | .2 | 31.1 | .7 | 80.2 | 12.3 | 28.9 | 39.1 | 33.5 | 20.7 | 43.5 |
| July | 217.4 | 94.6 | 25.1 | .2 | 29.9 | .7 | 81.5 | 12.9 | 28.7 | 39.5 | 33.2 | 20.5 | 43.3 |
| Nov. | 218.1 | 96.2 | 25.0 | .2 | 29.1 | .7 | 80.9 | 13.3 | 28.2 | 38.3 | 33.8 | 20.8 | 44.1 |
| 1944-Apr. | 216.5 | 92.4 | 24.5 | .2 | 27.5 | .7 | 82.3 | 13.6 | 28.4 | 37.0 | 34.3 | 20.3 | 45.0 |
| May | 216.2 | 91.8 | 24.6 | .2 | 27.0 | .7 | 82.8 | 13.7 | 28.4 | 37.3 | 34.2 | 20.2 | 45.0 |
| June | 216.5 | 90.5 | 24.4 | .2 | 25.7 | .7 | 84.4 | 13.8 | 28.6 | 37.3 | 34.5 | 20.3 | 45.1 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

* Includes Allied Works Council projects / Includes Education, Health, Hotels, Restaurants, Profession and Personal Services (except private domestic).

TRANSPORT.

Railways. County and metropolitan passenger and goods services have been further curtailed as a consequence of the shortage of coal supplies.

Passengers carried (21.2 m.) in July, 1944, numbered 1.5 m. more than in July, 1943, but goods and livestock freight declined by 88,000 tons to 1,647,000 tons.

Gross earnings (£2,684,000) and working expenses (£1,925,000) showed decreases of £268,000 and £49,000 respectively.

N.S.W. GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

| Year | Month of July. | | | | Net Earnings £ |
|---------|--------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| | Passenger Journeys | Goods & Livestock tonnage | Gross Earnings £000 | Working Expenses £000 | |
| | Million | 000 | £000 | £000 | £000 |
| 1938/39 | 15.6 | 1,429 | 1,555 | 1,183 | 372 |
| 1940/41 | 15.5 | 1,801 | 2,011 | 1,203 | 808 |
| 1941/42 | 16.8 | 1,460 | 2,043 | 1,425 | 623 |
| 1942/43 | 18.3 | 1,659 | 2,726 | 1,618 | 1,108 |
| 1943/44 | 19.7 | 1,735 | 2,952 | 1,974 | 978 |
| 1944/45 | 21.2 | 1,647 | 2,684 | 1,925 | 759 |

◊ Gross Earnings less Working Expenses, available to pay Interest, etc., on Railway loan debt.

Government Trams and Buses. In the year ended June, 1944, passenger traffic and gross earnings reached new high levels. Due, however, to the rising ratio of working expenses, net earnings (prior to charging depreciation and interest) were less favourable than in past years.

Passenger journeys (534.5 m.) increased by 33.5 m. or 6.7%, as compared with 24.4 m. in 1942/43 and 69.7 m. in 1941/42. The total increase since 1938/39 was 160.9 m. or 43%.

Gross earnings (£5.7 m.) were £118,000 on 2.1% higher than in 1942/43, and working expenses (£5.1 m.) were £199,000, higher. Net earnings therefore declined by £81,000 to £555,000. This amount compares with £858,000 in 1940/41.

N.S.W. GOVERNMENT TRAMS & BUSES - SYDNEY AND NEWCASTLE.

| Year | Year ended June. | | | | Net Earnings £ |
|---------|--------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|---|----------------|
| | Passenger Journeys | Gross Earnings £000 | Working Expenses £000 | x | |
| | millions | £000 | £000 | | £000 |
| 1938/39 | 373.6 | 4,374 | 3,702 | | 672 |
| 1940/41 | 406.9 | 4,790 | 3,932 | | 858 |
| 1941/42 | 476.6 | 5,429 | 4,646 | | 783 |
| 1942/43 | 501.0 | 5,582 | 4,946 | | 636 |
| 1943/44 | 534.5 | 5,700 | 5,145 | | 555 |

x Excluding Depreciation. ◊ Gross Earnings less Working Expenses available to pay Depreciation and Int., etc., on Loan Debt,

MOTOR REGISTRATIONS.

Registrations increased by 728 (cars 316, lorries and vans 284, motor cycles 58) in July, 1944. This is the first month since Oct. 1943, in which the increase has been less than 1,000.

Charcoal from the Government Undertaking for use in producer-gas vehicles has been rationed because of a reduction in supplies which can be brought to Sydney by rail.

MOTOR VEHICLES REGISTERED IN N.S.W.

| Vehicles | At end of month. | | | Increase | | | |
|----------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------|--------------|---------------------|---------------|---------------------------------|
| | Aug. 1939 *† | July, 1942 ∅ | July, 1944 | May, 1944 | June, 1944 xx | July, 1944 | July, 1942 to July, 1944. |
| | 000 | 000 | 000 | | | | |
| Cars | 216.6 | 170.0 | 181.3 | 461 | 363 | 316 | 11,230 |
| Lorries & Vans | 77.6 | 70.9 | 78.3 | 627 | 542 | 284 | 7,409 |
| All Vehicles | 329.2 | 267.4 | 286.7 | 1,296 | 1,052 | 728 | 19,313 |

* Pre-war peak. ∅ Lowest wartime number of cars. xx Revised

New registrations of lorries and vans averaged 73 weekly in July, 1944, as compared with 84 in June, 1944, and 60 in July, 1943. The weekly average in July, 1939, was 133.

Practically no new cars are being registered.

NEW MOTOR VEHICLES REGISTERED: AVERAGE WEEKLY NUMBER IN N.S.W.

| Year | Cars (incl. Cabs & Omnibuses) | | | | | Lorries and Vans. | | | | |
|------|-------------------------------|-------|-----|------|------|-------------------|-------|-----|------|------|
| | March | April | May | June | July | March | April | May | June | July |
| 1939 | 435 | 393 | 417 | 376 | 305 | 131 | 130 | 151 | 141 | 133 |
| 1943 | 7 | 7 | 6 | 4 | 6 | 13 | 17 | 40 | 45 | 60 |
| 1944 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 6 | 4 | 88 | 83 | 84 | 84 | 73 |

BUILDING.

Private Building. In July, 1944, permits were issued in Sydney and suburbs for private buildings estimated to cost £154,000. Factories, £113,883, represented 76% of this total and houses, £22,296, (including alterations and additions £6,934) 14%. New dwellings numbered 33.

Permits (£825,000 - monthly average £118,000) in the seven months January to July included factories £599,000 (72%) and houses £110,000 (13.5%). There were 138 new dwellings in these proposals,

Government Building. The estimated cost of work authorised and contracts let, £157,000, in N.S.W. during July, 1944, compares with an average of £195,000 in the seven months January to July. New dwellings numbered 84 in the first six months; there were none in July.

NEW BUILDINGS, ALTERATIONS & ADDITIONS.

Seven months ended July.

| | Private Building Permits | Proposed Government Buildings. | | | |
|------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------|
| | | Sydney & Suburbs | Sydney & Suburbs | Balance of State | Total N.S.W. |
| | £000 | £000 | £000 | £000 | £000 |
| 1940 | 6,351 | 492 | 1,945 | 2,437 | |
| 1941 | 6,830 | 1,056 | 1,344 | 2,400 | |
| 1942 | 773 | 569 | 2,136 | 2,705 | |
| 1943 | 363 | 2,246 | 880 | 3,126 | |
| 1944 | 825 | 892 | 471 | 1,363 | |